

MARVEL
COMICS



© 1994 MARVEL ENT. GROUP INC.

\$1.25 US
\$1.60 CAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

14
MAR
UK 95p

THE PUNISHER

THE BLADES OF BLUE MAX



DIRECT EDITION

01411

7 59606 01159 9



The Comic Rack

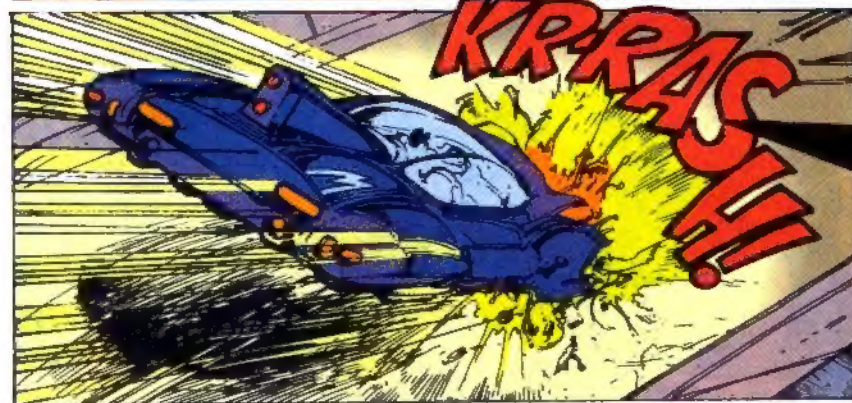
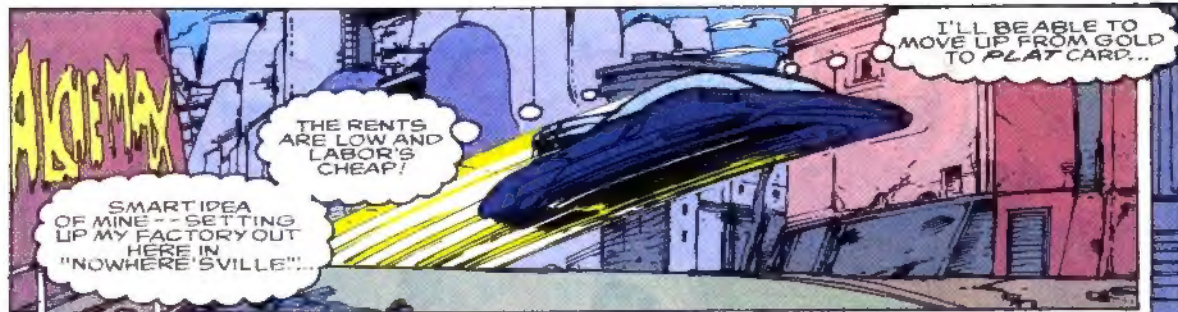
Stan
Lee
PRESENTS

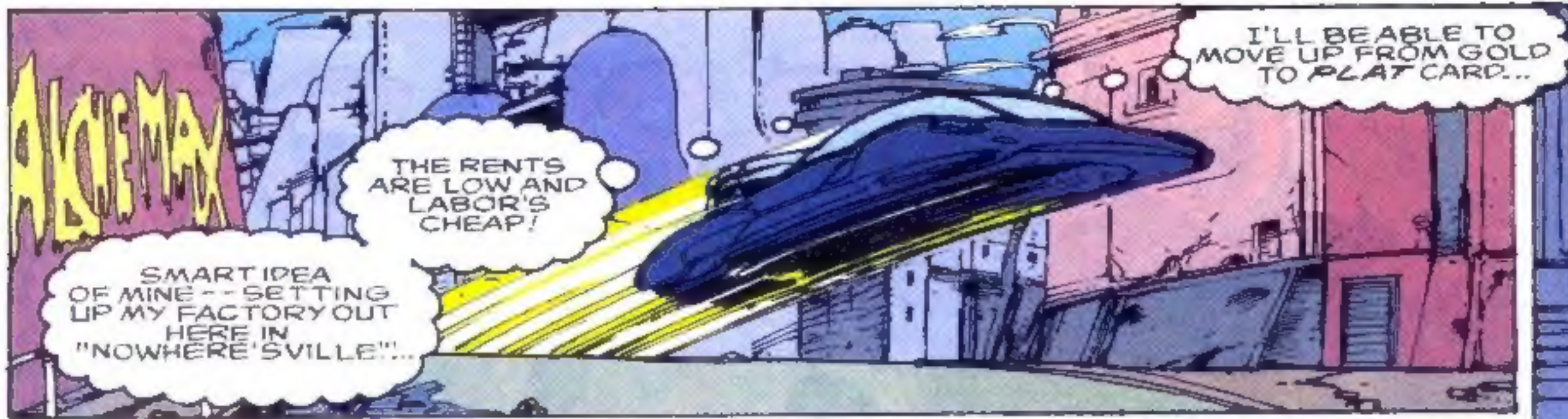
YOUNG BLADES



PAT MILLS &
TONY SKINNER
WRITERS
WILL SIMPSON
ARTIST
JANICE CHIANG
LETTERER
RAN LALONJAN
COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI
EDITOR
TOM DE FALCO
KAHUNA

PUNISHER 2098™ Vol. 1, No. 14, March, 1994 (ISSN #1058-3505) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President; Stan Lee, Publisher; Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 367 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price: \$1.25 per copy in the U.S. and \$1.50 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: \$15.00 U.S., \$27.00 foreign, and Canadian subscribers must add \$10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R12302852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. PUNISHER 2098 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likeness thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PUNISHER 2098, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING CORP. SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. PO. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT 06813-1979. TELEPHONE: (203) 743-5331. PRINTED IN U.S.A.



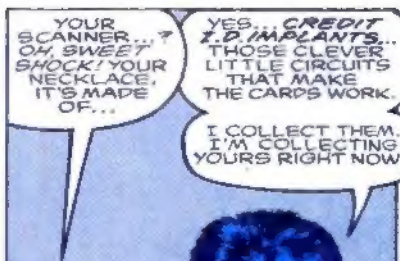






HOW--HOW DO YOU KNOW I'VE A GOLD CARD?

MY SCANNER TOLD ME...



YOUR SCANNER...? OH, SWEET SHOCK! YOUR NECKLACE, IT'S MADE OF...

YES, CREDIT I.D. IMPLANTS... THOSE CLEVER LITTLE CIRCUITS THAT MAKE THE CARDS WORK.

I COLLECT THEM. I'M COLLECTING YOURS RIGHT NOW.

H'MM... LOCATED UNDER YOUR RIBCAGE... RIGHT NEXT TO YOUR PULSE MAKER...



WEAK HEART, HUH? 'FRID YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIVE THROUGH THIS ONE, MR. GOLD CARD.



BUT LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE... THINK OF ALL THE THINGS IT'LL BUY ME--WITH THE RIGHT DESIGNER LABELS.

HURRY, MAX-- THE DUPE'S AUTO ALARM WILL BEACON A DOG...

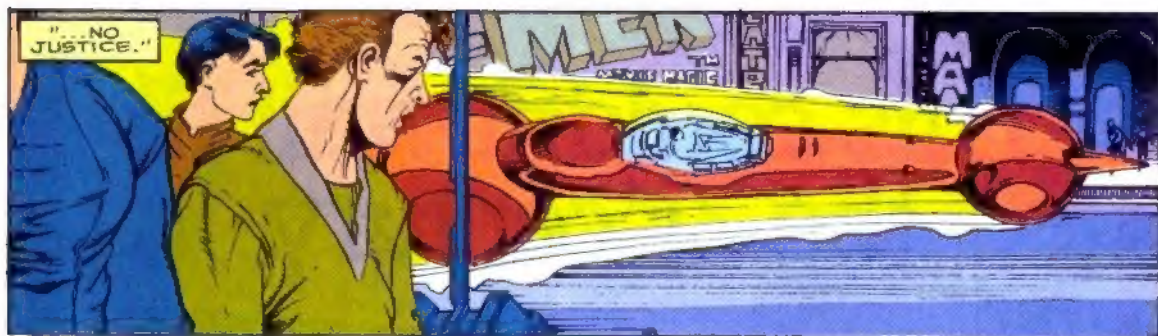


NO "WATCHDOG" IS GONNA TANGLE WITH US TO SAVE HIS FLESH!

YOU'D TAKE MY LIFE FOR THE SAKE OF FASHION...?



WHAT ELSE, SUCKER...? THERE ARE ONLY LABELS... THERE'S NO SENSE TO LIFE... NO REASON...



"...NO JUSTICE."

THAT'S ON THE DOWNTOWN BORDER. THE "WATCHDOGS" ARE MEANT TO COVER THAT TERRITORY... EXCEPT THEY NEVER DO...



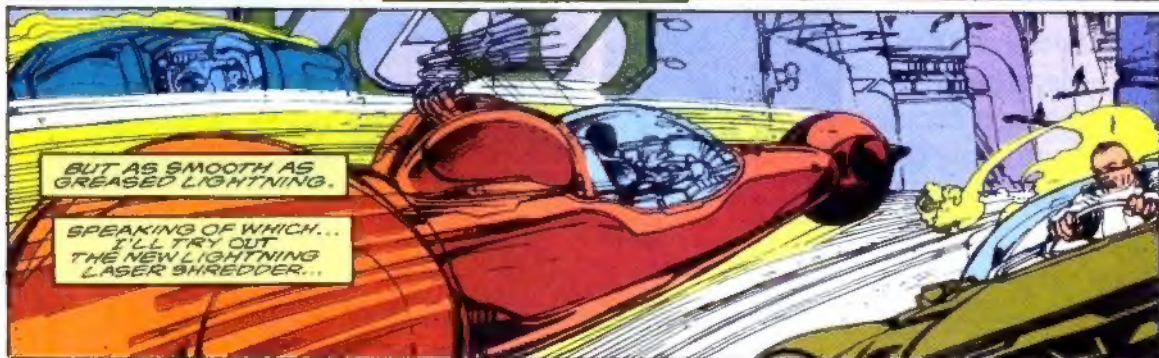
COURSE APPROVED. GET ME THERE FAST!

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE FIELD-TESTING THIS NEW GYRO INTERCEPTOR UNIT.

COMPLYING

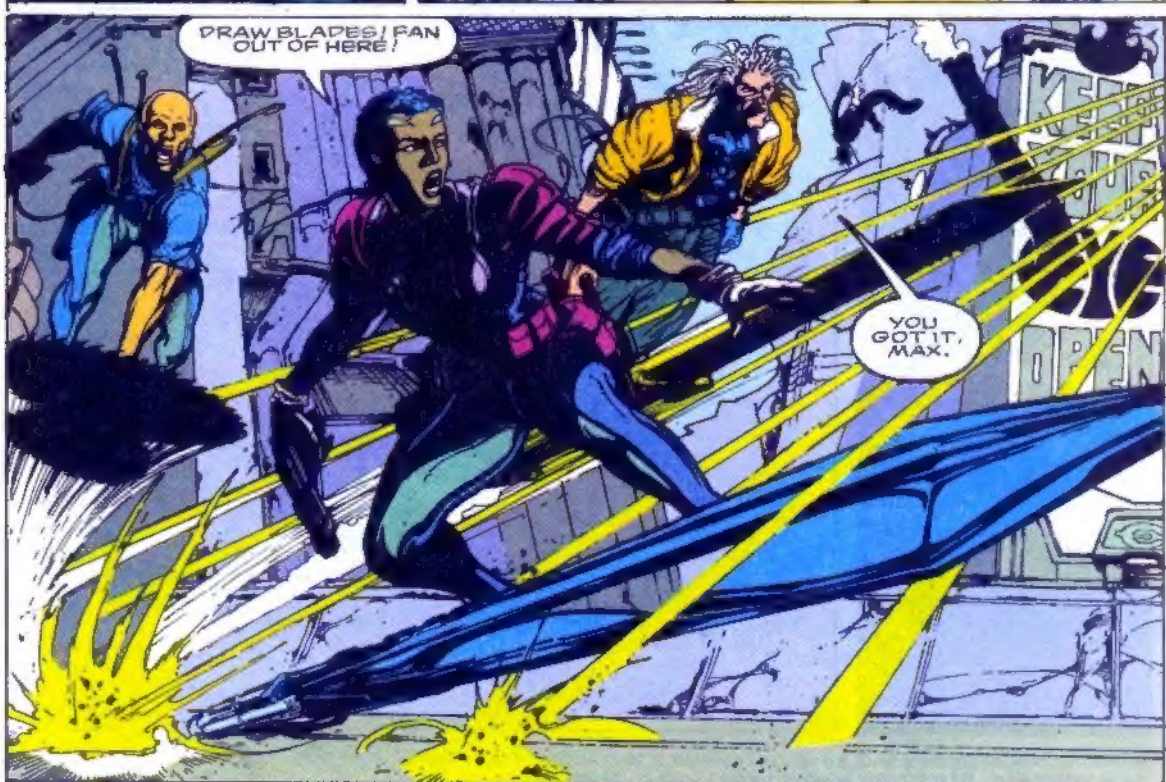
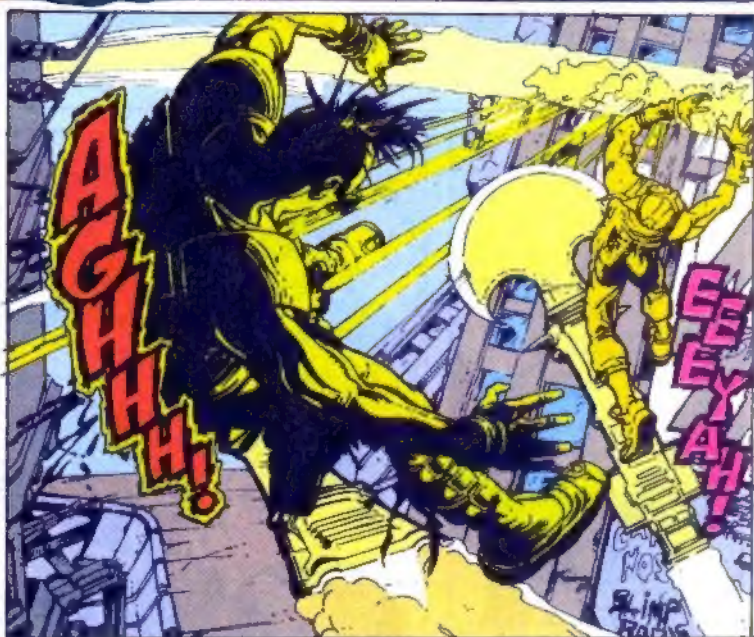


THE INDUCTION COILS ARE THROWING THE MERCURY AROUND THE GYRO-TUBES AT FORTY METERS A SECOND, GIVING IT ENORMOUS CENTRIFUGAL FORCE...



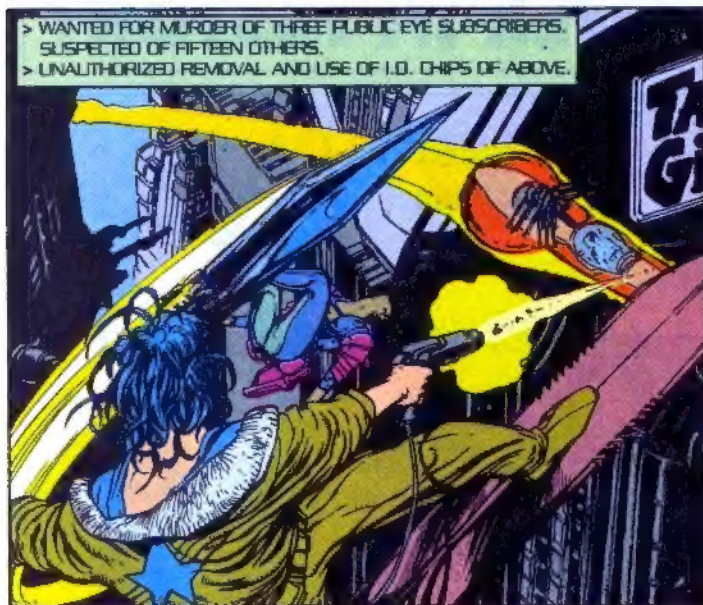
BUT AS SMOOTH AS GREASED LIGHTNING.

SPEAKING OF WHICH... I'LL TRY OUT THE NEW LIGHTNING LASER SHREDDER...

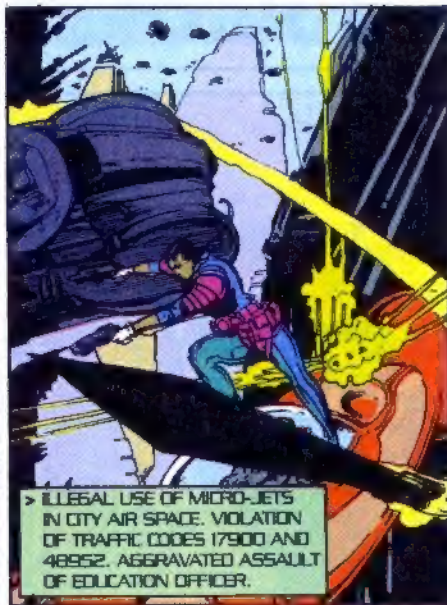




> IDENTITY OF GANGS
ESTABLISHED:
YOUNG BLADES.
> LEADER: MAXINE
SANDS A.K.A.
BLUE MAX. 17
YEARS OLD.
> PRODUCT OF
UNAUTHORIZED
UNION OF DECRET-
ITED PERSONS.
> RECORD FOLLOWS.



> WANTED FOR MURDER OF THREE PUBLIC EYE SUBSCRIBERS.
SUSPECTED OF FIFTEEN OTHERS.
> UNAUTHORIZED REMOVAL AND USE OF I.O. CHIPS OF ABOVE.

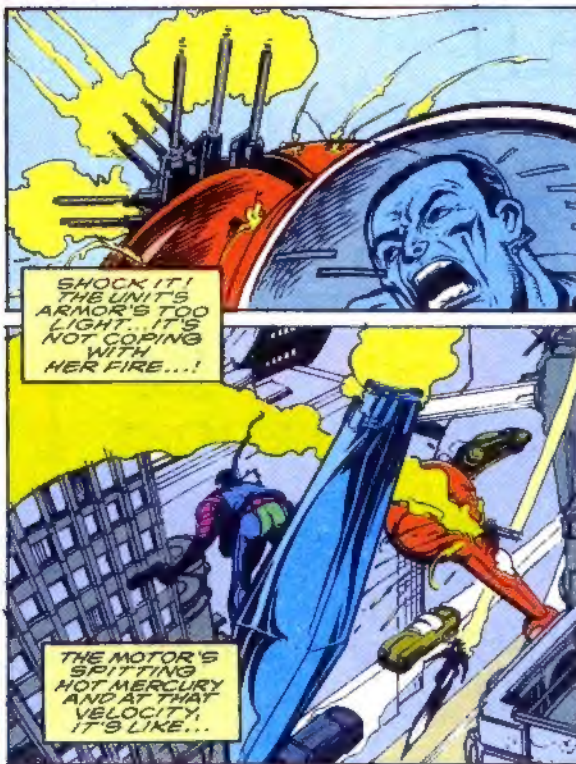


> ILLEGAL USE OF MICRO-JETS
IN CITY AIR SPACE. VIOLATION
OF TRAFFIC CODES 17900 AND
48952. AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
OF EDUCATION OFFICER.



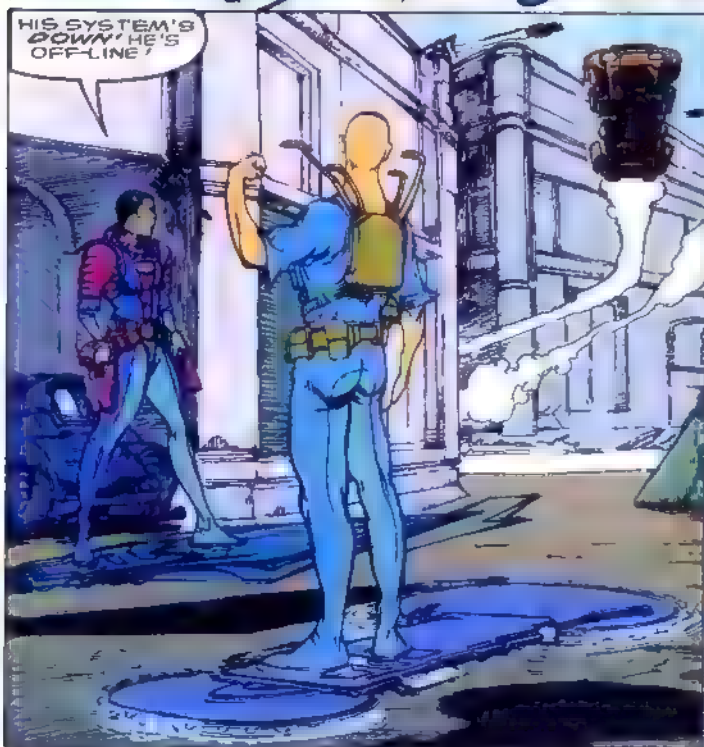
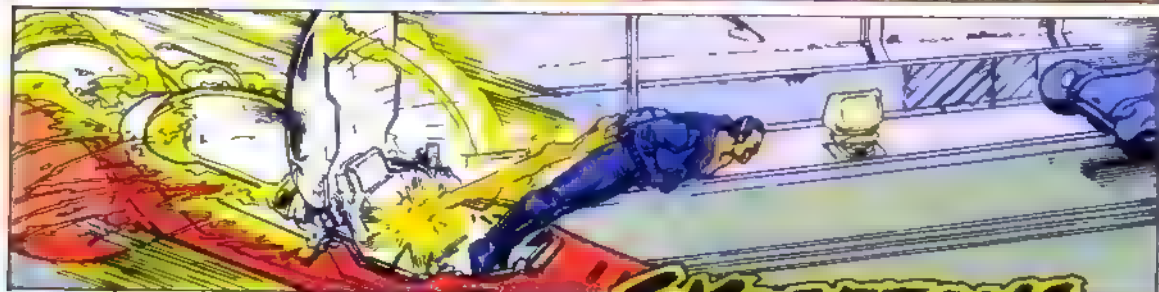
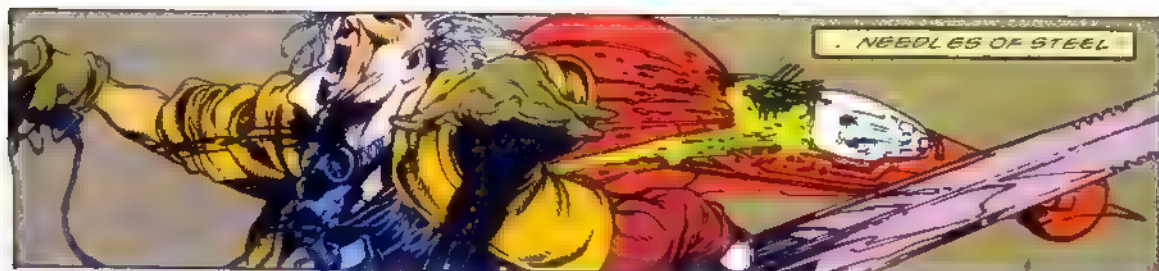
> HOLDER OF
BLUE DAGGER
FOR FIVE
YEARS. ILLEGAL
COMPETITION
BETWEEN CRIM-
INAL GANGS FOR
POSSESSION OF
BLUE-DAGGER
JET BLADE.<

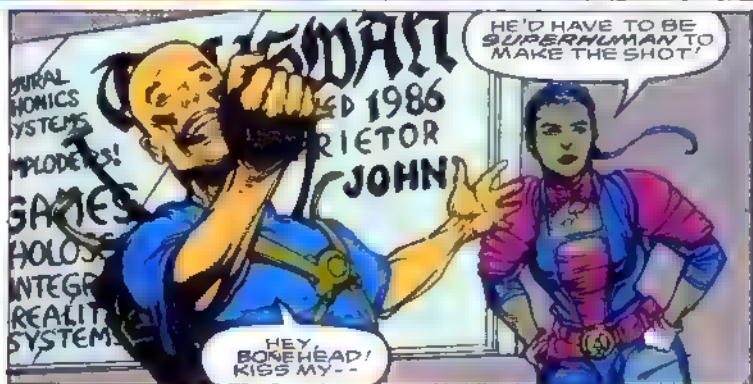
HARD WOMAN,
HUN? HER KIND
NEED WIPING
FROM
THE SKY...

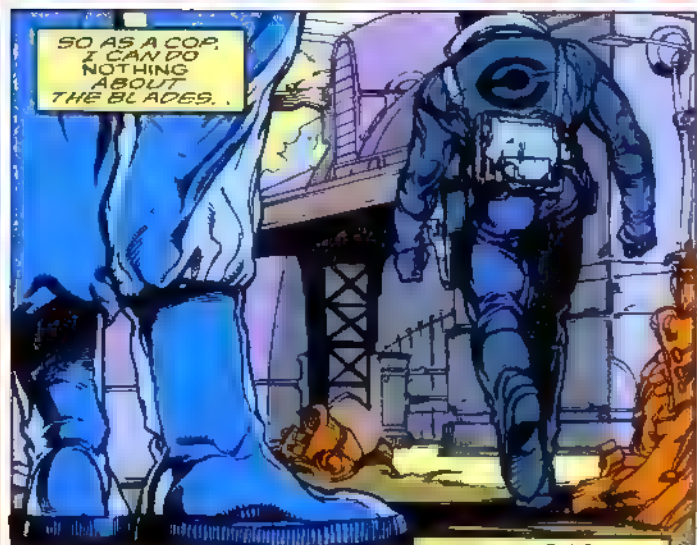
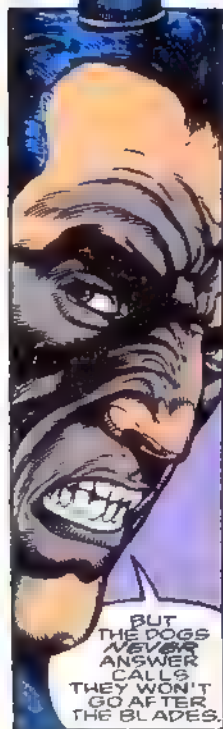
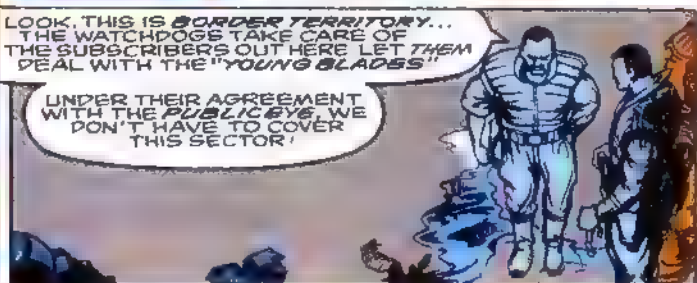


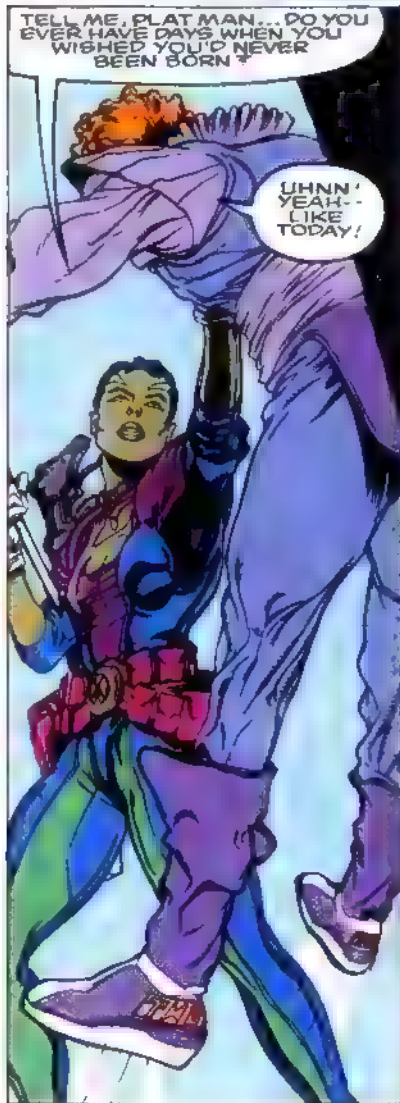
SHOCK IT!
THE UNIT'S
ARMOR'S TOO
LIGHT... IT'S
NOT GOING
WITH
HER FIRE...!

THE MOTOR'S
SPITTING
HOT MERCURY
AND AT THAT
VELOCITY,
IT'S LIKE...









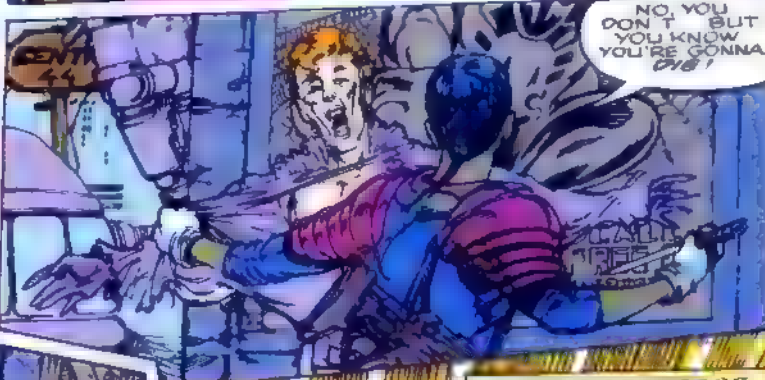
BUT I'M A *DECEAD*! I WAS BORN A NOBODY, A NOW PERSON! REFUSED ACCESS TO SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, HYPERMARKETS, SHOPPING MALLS.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO ENTER SANTA'S GROTTO AT EIGHT YEARS OLD... AND HE CALLS SECURITY?



NO, YOU DON'T. BUT YOU KNOW YOU'RE GONNA *DIE*!



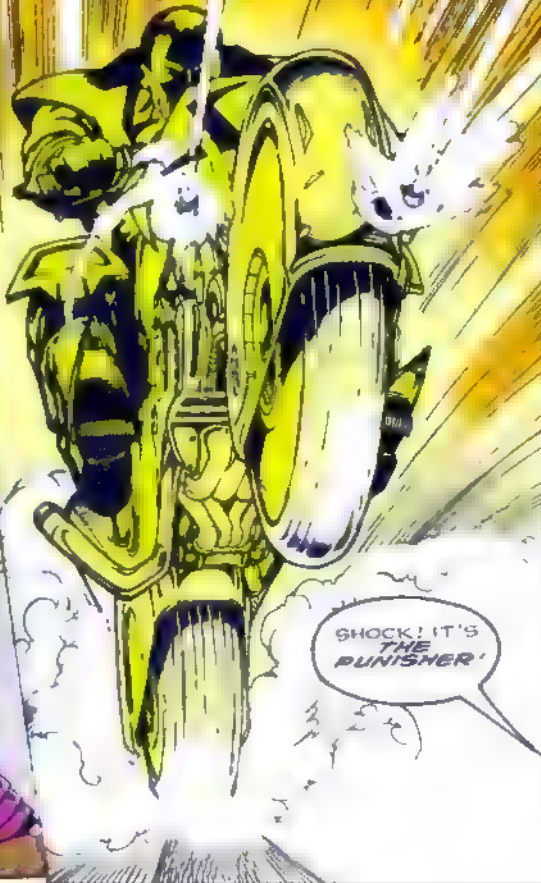
KNIFE DISPOSED OF WITH NEEDLE LASER. NOW TO FINISH OFF THIS CHICK ON HER SHOULDER AND HER GANG.



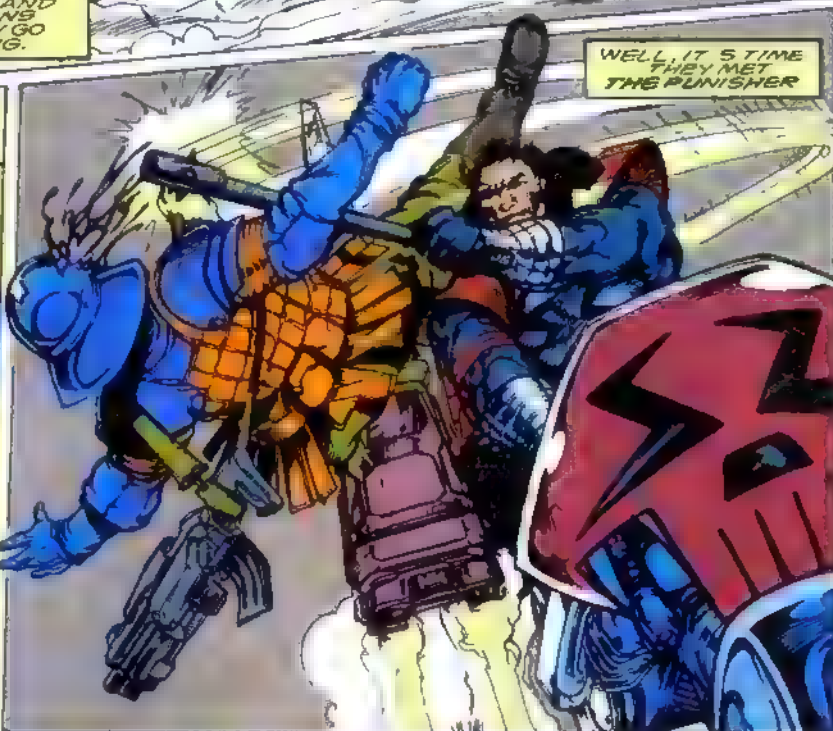
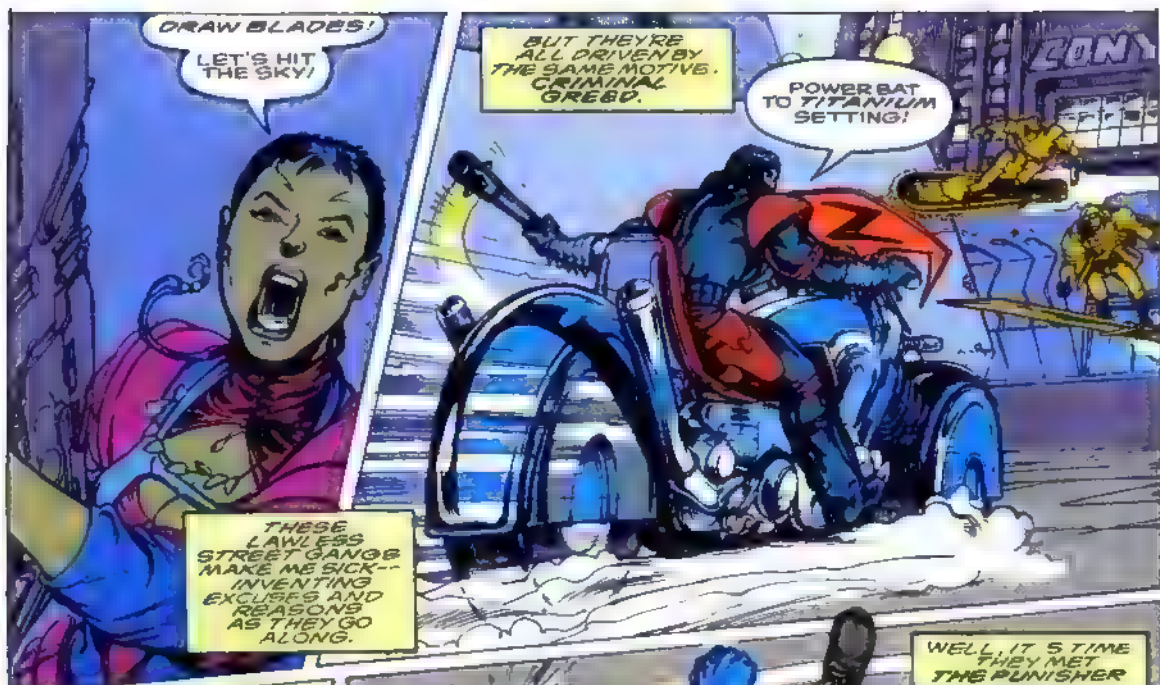
THAT'S THE ONE THING THAT MAKES US EQUAL!



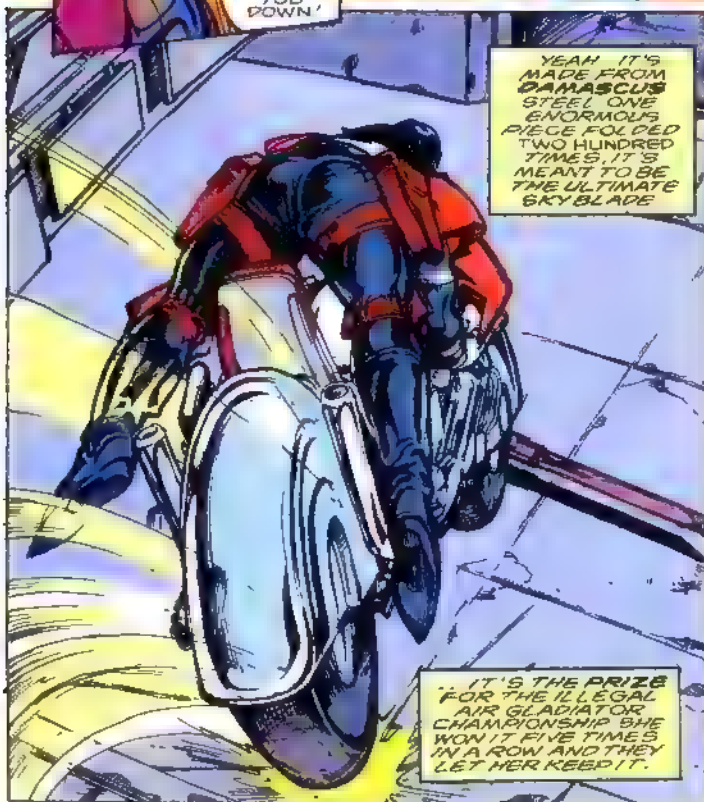
UUUHHH?



SHOCK! IT'S *THE PUNISHER*!







AS A SPECIAL
OPERATIONS
MAN I'VE
CHECKED OUT
THESE
DELINQUENTS'
MACHINES...

AND I CAN
HANDLE A BLADE
AS WELL AS ANY OF
THESE CREEPS

YAAHHHHH

PERHAPS, NOT
THIS CREEP

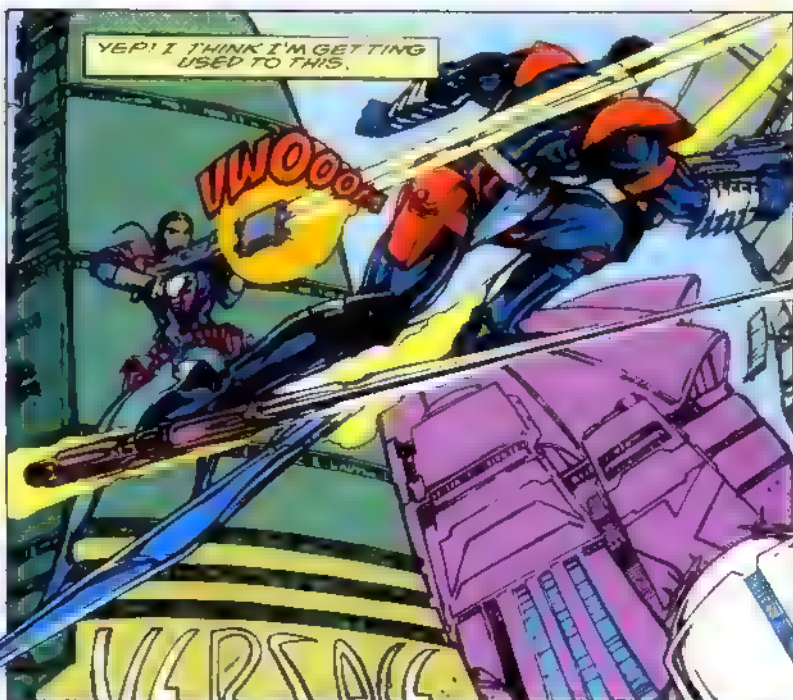
GRAB
SOME
AIR!

THIS ISN'T
THE BLUE TAIGER
CHAMPIONSHIP
LADY THIS IS REAL.
THE LOSER DIES

EVERYTHING'S
FOR
REAL JERK
AND YOU'RE
GONNA DIE



GOTTA GET
THE HANG
OF THIS
BLADE
BEFORE
I START
FIRING
BACK.
MY ARMOR
WILL TAKE
CARE
OF HER
LASERS.

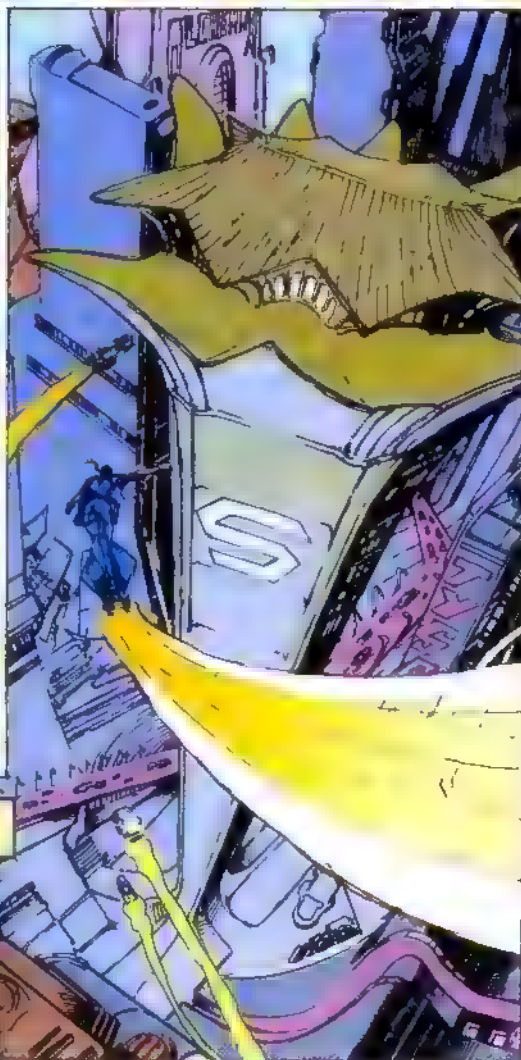


YEP! I THINK I'M GETTING
USED TO THIS.



I CAN SEE
WHY THESE SKY
GANGS GET OFF
ON THIS.

IT'S DEADLY --
BUT
EXPLORATING.

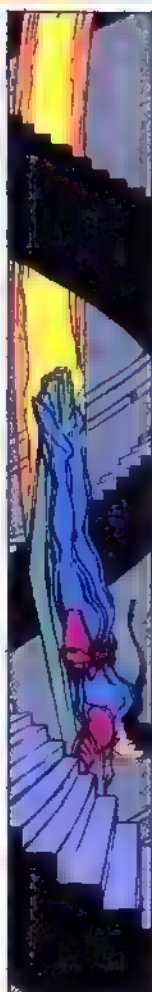
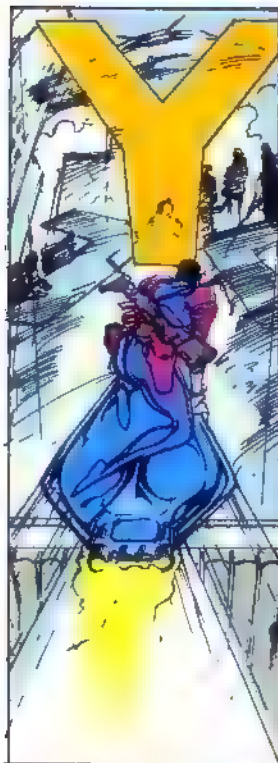


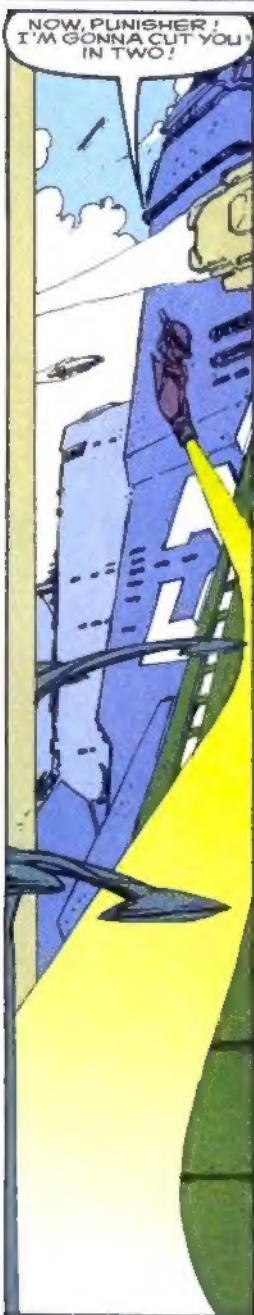
BUT ENOUGH
MESSING
AROUND.



...IT'S EXECUTION
TIME.

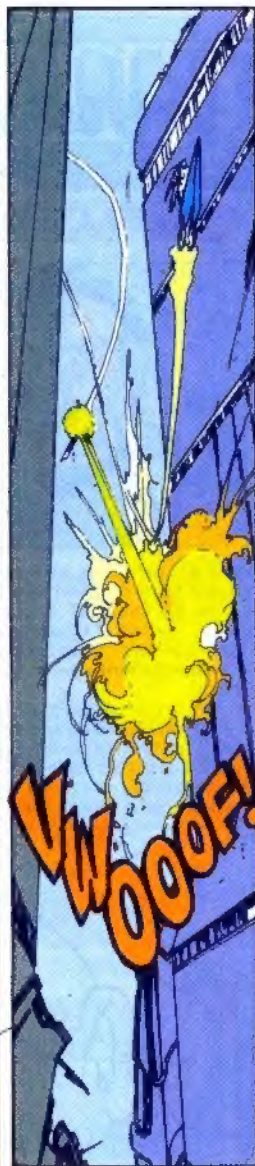
WHEN SHE COMES
AROUND THE SIDE
OF THAT BUILDING,
IT'S GOODBYE.







INCENDIARY
ROCKET!
GOODBYE,
BLUE MAX!

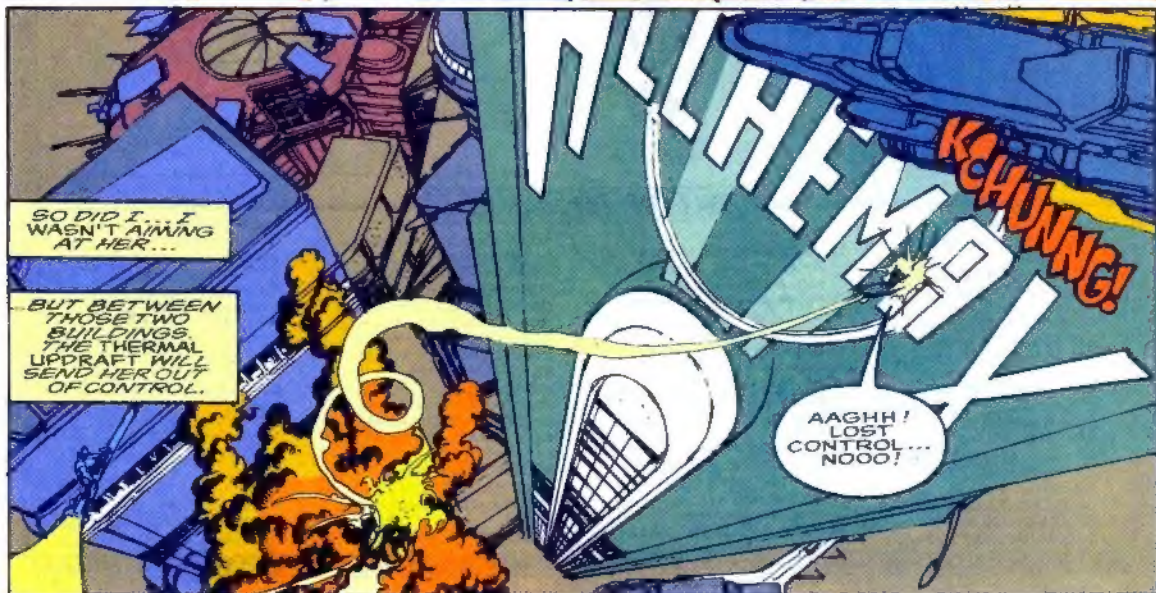


VW
OOOF!



YOU'RE
SLOW, MAN!
I CUT
MY TEETH ON
THIS KIND OF
MANEUVER!

WOOM



SO DID I... I
WASN'T AIMING
AT HER...

BUT BETWEEN
THOSE TWO
BUILDINGS,
THE THERMAL
UPDRAFT WILL
SEND HER OUT
OF CONTROL.

AAGHH!
LOST
CONTROL...
NOOO!

KCHUNNG!



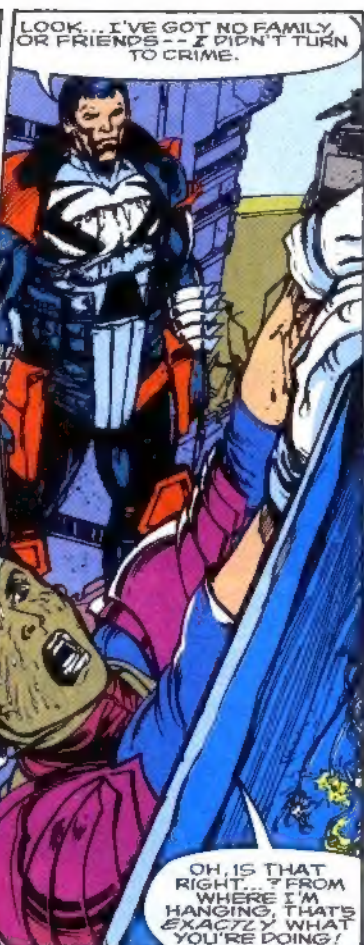
GO ON, HERO. PULL THE TRIGGER.

RIP SOCIETY OF ONE MORE EVIL MENACE!



DO IT! I'VE GOT NOTHING TO LIVE FOR ANYWAY!

I'VE GOT NO FAMILY AND YOU JUST KILLED ALL MY FRIENDS.



LOOK... I'VE GOT NO FAMILY, OR FRIENDS -- I DIDN'T TURN TO CRIME.



OH, IS THAT RIGHT? FROM WHERE I'M HANGING, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE DOING!



NO-- YOU HAVEN'T UNDERSTOOD.

OH, YEAH-- DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE A GOOD GUY-- YOU KILL FOR MOTIVES. I KILL TO STAY ALIVE!



LOOK, ALL I KNOW IS-- I KILL YOU AND I SAVE A LOT OF INNOCENT LIVES.

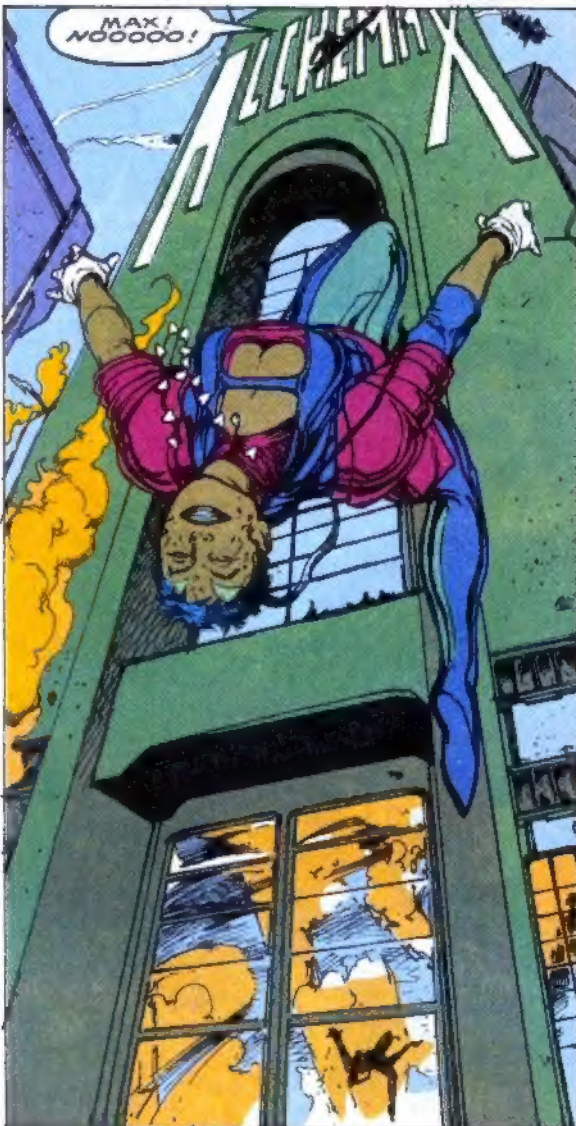
ENOUGH TALK. TIME TO DIE, MAXINE.



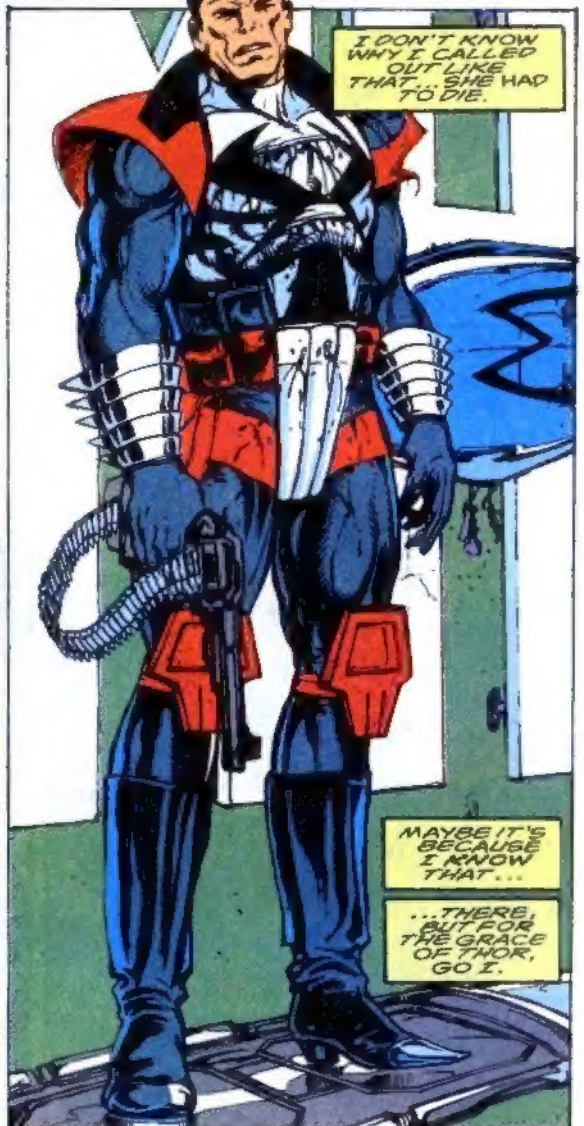
NO WAY, HERO... NOBODY EVER
GAVE ME ANYTHING... YOU
AIN'T GONNA GIVE ME...



...DEATH!



MAX!
NOOOOO!



I DON'T KNOW
WHY I CALLED
OUT LIKE
THAT... SHE
HAD TO DIE.

MAYBE IT'S
BECAUSE
I KNOW
THAT...

...THERE,
BUT FOR
THE GRACE
OF THOR,
GO I.